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GLENN A. GRANT, J.A.D.

ACTING ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

Glenn A. Grant, J.A.D. Acting Administrative Director of the Courts Rules Comments Hughes Justice Complex; P.O. Box 037 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0037

Comments to Report on PRIVATE CITIZEN COMPLAINTS IN THE MUNICIPAL COURTS

Dear Judge Grant and Court:

I am a trial attorney handling primarily Municipal Court and Criminal cases and also serve as a Municipal Public Defender.

Regarding Recommendation 1

The court should restrict the easy filing of citizen complaints.

We have seen numerous theft complaint filed by private citizens misusing the Municipal courts to try to collect money.

I recommend an upfront small filing fee if not a DV Domestic violence related complaint.

I would recommend the Municipal court judge, not a court employee, to hear probable cause on the record with tactical filers on notice to the accused. The accused should be permitted to be heard on probable cause hearings. In the past I have been retained by the Attorney General's office and police departments to represent police and

government workers facing frivolous retaliatory complaints by tactical filers.

Recently an Uber driver given a ticket by local police after an accident files a free retaliatory ticket against the other innocent driver. The Uber driver then hopes the victim will not testify in court to have the case dismissed.

I agree with the Recommendation 5 & Recommendation 6

Respectfully/submitted,

KENNETH A. VERCAMMEN